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STAR WARS

HAN SOLO



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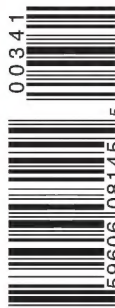
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HAN SOLO

Part III

It is a period of unrest. In a galaxy oppressed by the Empire's merciless cruelty, there is little hope for the future. Nonetheless, rebels have banded together to fight back against corruption.

Untrusting by nature, Han Solo has returned his focus to what he does best – smuggling. However, when Princess Leia approaches him with an offer too good to refuse, Han finds himself once again working for the Rebellion alongside his co-pilot, Chewbacca.

His mission is to race the Millennium Falcon in one of the most notorious races in the galaxy, the Dragon Void, as a cover to find a potentially traitorous rebel spy. After a deadly start, Han is one of just four pilots remaining in the race – until the Empire steps in and arrests them all....

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CITIZENS OF THE GALAXY, THIS ISN'T THE DRAMA YOU WERE EXPECTING FROM THE DRAGON VOID RUN, IS IT?

IT SEEMS THE EMPIRE HAS ARRESTED ALL THE PILOTS...AND FOR WHAT REASON? FLYING TOO FAST? BEING TOO FABULOUS?

THE EMPIRE HAS NEVER APPROVED OF THE DRAGON VOID...ARE THEY FINALLY READY TO PUT A STOP TO IT... FOR GOOD?

WELL, THIS IS A DISASTER.

NOR CAN IT BE A COINCIDENCE. DESPITE ALL OUR PRECAUTIONS, THE EMPIRE MUST HAVE DISCOVERED OUR PLANS.

OR MAYBE YOUR SMUGGLER GAVE US UP, PRINCESS.

NO, ADMIRAL AIREN.

DON'T GIVE UP HOPE YET.

IF THERE'S ONE THING I'M SURE OF...

...HAN SOLO IS A SURVIVOR. AND HE'LL SURVIVE THIS.

THIS
DRAGON VOID
RUN ENDS
HERE.

SOMETHING'S NOT
RIGHT. AND I
DON'T MEAN THE
STORMTROOPERS.

IT'S NO SURPRISE THEY'RE
HERE. ANY SPY IN THE
REBELLION WAS GOING TO
BE SUSPICIOUS ABOUT MY
INVOLVEMENT IN THIS RACE.

IT IS A
DISRUPTIVE EVENT
THAT IS INCITING
UNREST.

I DIDN'T SAY YES TO
LEIA BECAUSE I THOUGHT
IT WOULD BE SAFE.

I'LL GET OUT OF
THIS--OR I WON'T.
SAME AS ALWAYS.

INDEED,
ON THE WAY HERE WE
ARRESTED LOCAL CRIMINAL
ELEMENTS WHO WERE
SHOOTING AT EACH OTHER IN
THE STREET OVER THIS
WRETCHED RACE.

BUT
SOMETHING'S
NOT RIGHT
WITH ME.

FOR ONCE, I'M
WORRIED ABOUT
SOMETHING
BESIDES MYSELF.

THEY WERE
SHOUTING THE
NAME OF ONE
OF YOUR PILOTS.

HAN
SOLO.

WHAT DO
YOU HAVE TO
SAY ABOUT THAT,
HMMM?

PEOPLE
LOVE ME. IT'S
A CURSE.

NO. YOU'RE A CRIMINAL,
JUST LIKE THE REST OF THEM. IT SPEAKS
ILL OF THE DRAGON VOID THAT YOU ARE
RACING. IT SENDS A BAD MESSAGE.

THE MOST
ELITE PILOTS
IN THE
GALAXY, EH?

WELL.

YOU ALL
SEEM LITTLE
BETTER THAN
RIFFRAFF.

AND YOU...
THE LEGENDARY
LOO RE
ANNO.

RUMORED
TO BE THE
LAST OF YOUR
KIND.

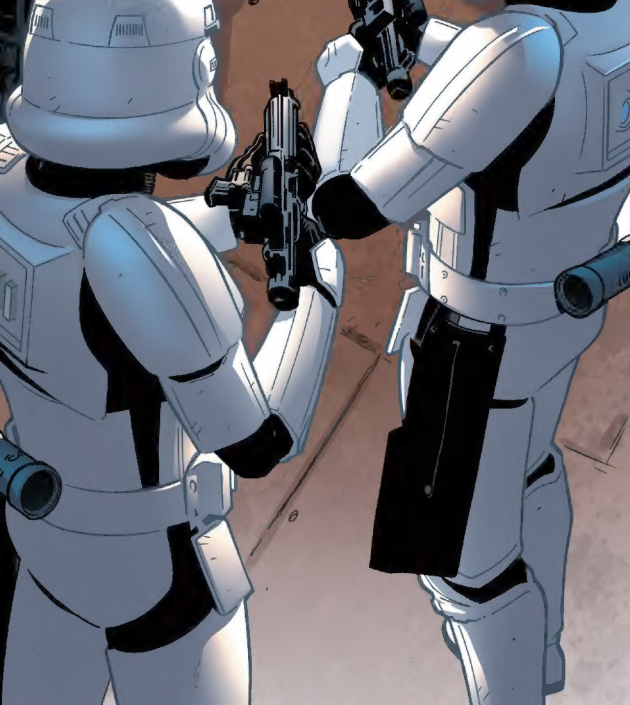
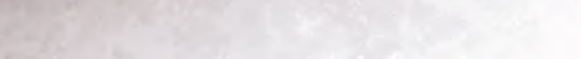
I'VE ALWAYS
WONDERED HOW
THAT HAPPENS. HOW
AN ENTIRE RACE CAN
DWINDLE DOWN TO
ONE INDIVIDUAL.

IT
USUALLY
REQUIRES
HELP.

WHAT
IS THIS...
THING?

THEY
WATCH, THAT
IS ALL.

PERHAPS
I DO NOT
WANT TO BE
WATCHED.





YOU HAVE
DELAYED
THE RACE...AND
DELAYS ARE
EXPENSIVE.

WE MUST
INSIST YOU
RELEASE OUR
PILOTS...

...BEFORE
THERE ARE
REPERCUSSIONS.

YOU
OVERSTEP
YOURSELF.

NOT AT
ALL.

FUEL IS
DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN
IN THIS REGION OF THE
GALAXY. AND ALL FOUR OF
YOUR REFUELING STATIONS
ARE PRIMARY SPONSERS
OF THIS RACE.

IF YOU SHUT
DOWN THE RACE...
THEY MIGHT IN ANGER
SHUT DOWN YOUR
FUEL.



THREATS
BORE ME.

BUT WHY
MAKE THINGS
DIFFICULT?

THE RACE
HARMS NO ONE...
ONLY THE PILOTS. IF
YOU WANT THEM OUT
OF THE WAY, LET
THEM RACE.

OUR
COURSES HAVE
ALWAYS BEEN...
THOROUGH.





I SUPPOSE
THE RACE
HAS ALREADY
BEGUN.

SAVOR IT.
THIS MIGHT VERY
WELL BE THE LAST
TIME THE DRAGON
VOID TAKES
PLACE.



DO WE
RACE?



YES.
THE
CLOCK
STARTS
NOW.



CHEWIE! I
HOPE YOU GOT
THE MAIL ON BOARD,
BECAUSE WE GOTTA
GO! NOW!



CHEWIE!

YOU BETTER
BE IN HERE,
BUDDY.



WHAT ARE
YOU DOING?
DIDN'T YOU GET MY
MESSAGE? WE
NEED TO--

WAIT...
WHY ARE YOU
HOLDING THE
MED KIT?

WNNNAAAAARGH!

WHAT DO
YOU MEAN YOU
WERE ATTACKED?
BY WHO?



OH.



PLEASE
TELL ME HE'S
NOT DEAD.

LEIA
WILL KILL
ME.



I'M NOT
DEAD, YOU
IDIOT.

THAT
WOOKIEE GAVE
ME A PARALYTIC.
I CAN'T MOVE
ANYTHING BUT
MY LIPS.



PLEASE
DON'T EVER
RESCUE ME
AGAIN.



I KNOW,
CHEWIE, I KNOW.
MISSION
FIRST.

BUT IT ALL
WORKED OUT,
RIGHT? WE GOT OUR
FIRST INFORMANT,
WE'RE BACK IN
THE RACE.

AND THE
RACE **MATTERS**.
WE HAVE TO STAY IN IT IF
THIS MISSION IS GONNA
SUCCEED. THAT'S THE
POINT, RIGHT?



OH,
COME ON. THIS
GLOWING BALL
AGAIN?

AAARGH.



LOO
RE ANNO...
CAN YOU
HEAR ME?



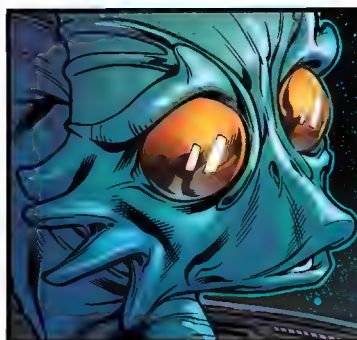
YES. BUT
WE WILL BE
JUMPING AT ANY
MOMENT, PILOT
SOLO.

WHAT
WEIGHS UPON
YOU?



THIS...
THING THAT'S
FOLLOWING ME.
YOU SAY IT
CHOSE ME.

SO WHAT
IS IT...AND HOW
DO I GET IT TO
GO AWAY?



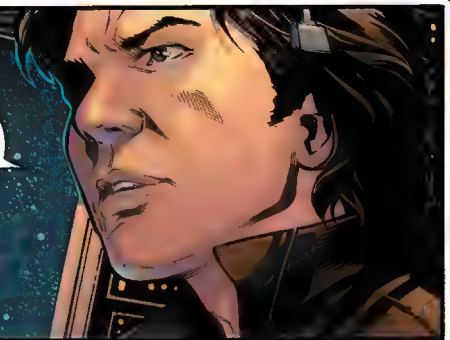
AH. I HAVE NOT YET THANKED
YOU FOR WHAT YOU DID
EARLIER. I AM IN YOUR DEBT
FOR SAVING MY YOUNG
FRIENDS.

THAT
DOESN'T
ANSWER MY
QUESTION.

NO,
IT DOES
NOT.

WAIT--

WE WILL
SPEAK ON THE OTHER
SIDE, PILOT SOLO.



"BUT NOW IT IS
TIME TO RACE."

I
HATE SPACE
TRAVEL.

AREN'T
YOU SUPPOSED
TO BE
PARALYZED?

FEAR OF YOUR
INCOMPETENCY
MOTIVATED MY
METABOLISM TO
KICK IN.

YOU SEEM
A LITTLE TOO
NERVOUS TO BE A
REBELLION INFORMANT.
HOW'D THEY ROPE
YOU IN?

MORALS.

GIVE ME
A BREAK.

WHAT, AND
YOU'RE NOT HERE
FOR THE SAME
REASON? THERE'S NO
PRICE TAG THAT KEEPS
A PERSON LOYAL WHEN
THEY'RE STARING DOWN
THE BARREL OF A
STORMTROOPER'S
RIFLE.

EXCEPT SOMEONE
WASN'T LOYAL, OR YOU
WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN SHOT AT.

THERE'S
A MOLE. MORE THAN
ONE. BUT THAT'S NOT
WHO'S BEEN KILLING
THE OTHER
INFORMANTS.

ONE OF
US TURNED. I'M
SURE OF IT.

ONLY PRINCESS
LEIA KNOWS OUR
IDENTITIES AND LOCATIONS,
BUT ALL OF US IN THE NETWORK
HAD INFORMATION ON EACH
OTHER. IT'S PART OF HOW WE
COMMUNICATED, HOW WE
CONTRIBUTED.

WE FUNNELED ALL THE SECRETS
WE GATHERED THROUGH JUST
ONE PERSON, WHO PUT THE
PIECES TOGETHER TO CREATE THE
MAP OF LEAKS INSIDE
THE REBELLION.

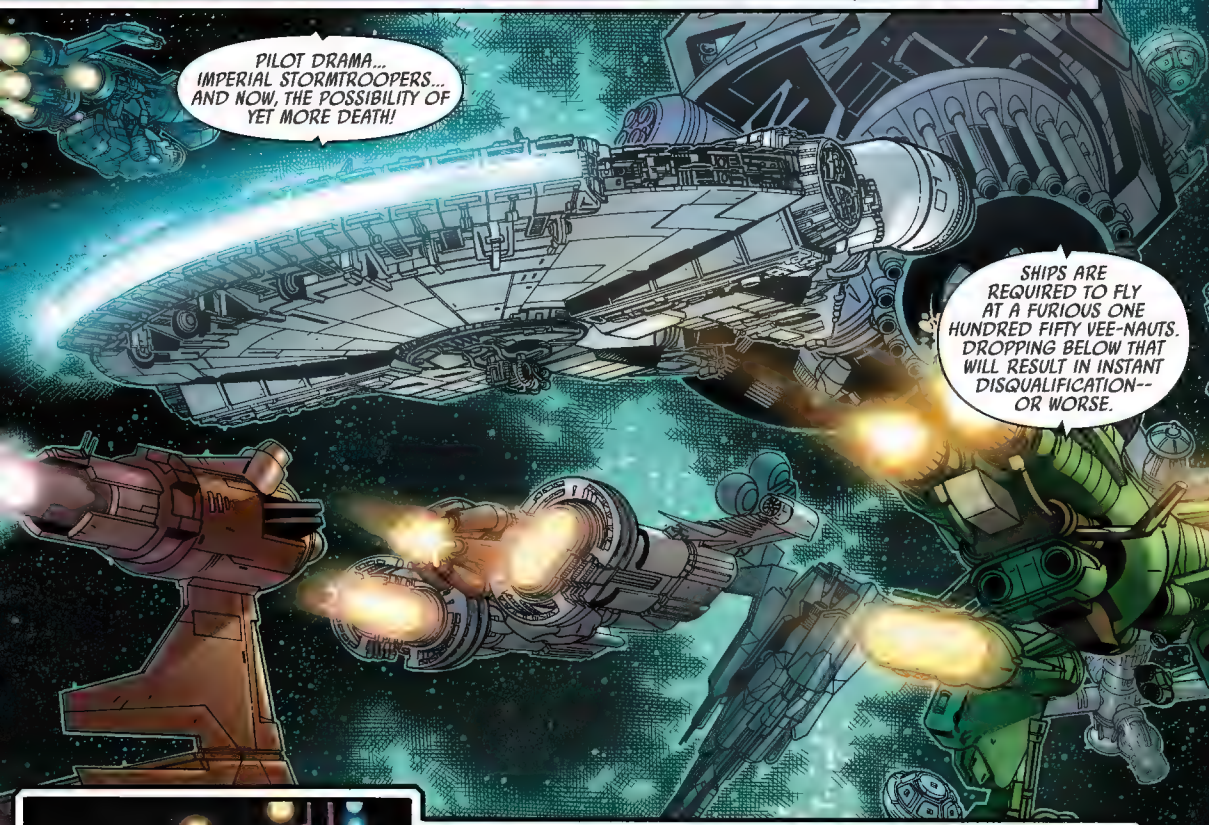
WHICH MEANS
THAT INDIVIDUALLY,
NONE OF US CAN IDENTIFY
THE MOLES. AND THE IDENTITY
OF OUR MASTER LIST-HOLDER
IS THE GREATEST SECRET
OF ALL.

THAT
DOESN'T MAKE
ONE OF YOU A
KILLER.



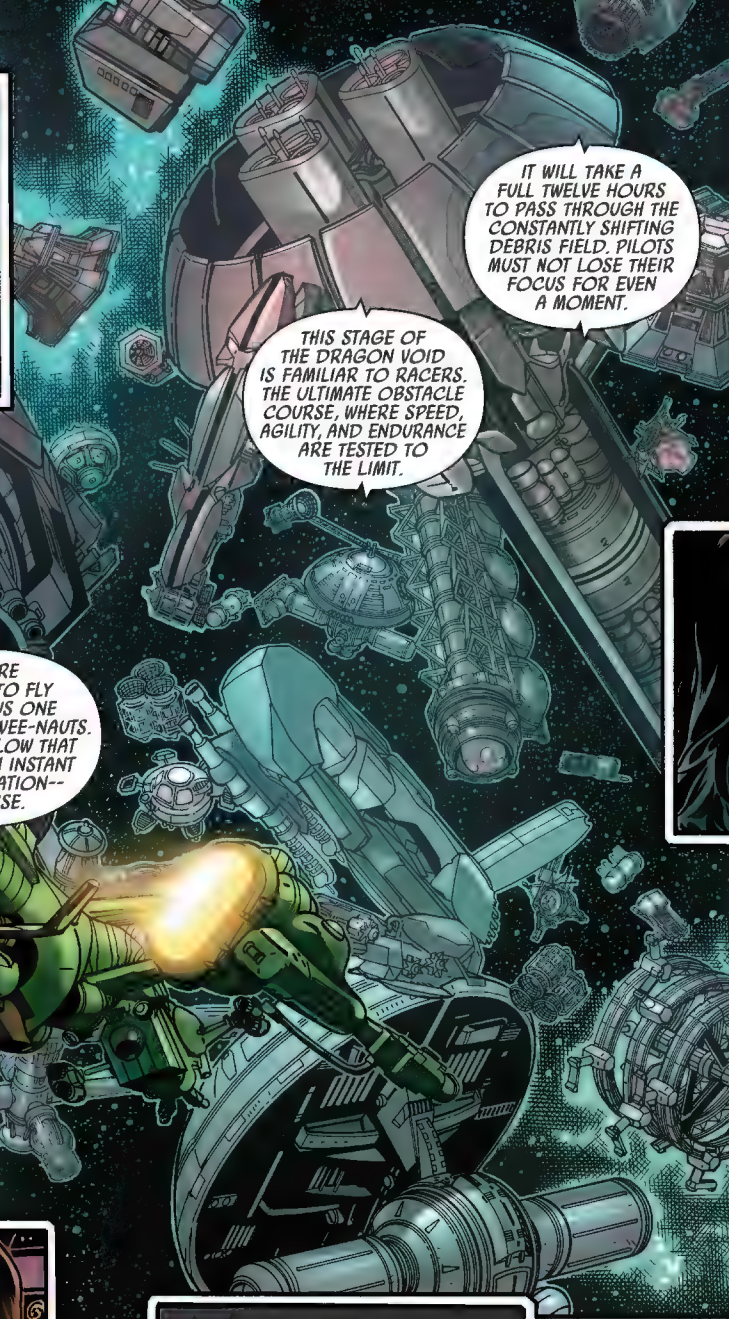


WELL, THE DRAGON VOID RUN HAS CERTAINLY BEEN FULL OF SURPRISES THIS TIME AROUND.



PILOT DRAMA... IMPERIAL STORMTROOPERS... AND NOW, THE POSSIBILITY OF YET MORE DEATH!

SHIPS ARE REQUIRED TO FLY AT A FURIOUS ONE HUNDRED FIFTY VEE-NAUTS. DROPPING BELOW THAT WILL RESULT IN INSTANT DISQUALIFICATION--OR WORSE.



IT WILL TAKE A FULL TWELVE HOURS TO PASS THROUGH THE CONSTANTLY SHIFTING DEBRIS FIELD. PILOTS MUST NOT LOSE THEIR FOCUS FOR EVEN A MOMENT.

THIS STAGE OF THE DRAGON VOID IS FAMILIAR TO RACERS. THE ULTIMATE OBSTACLE COURSE, WHERE SPEED, AGILITY, AND ENDURANCE ARE TESTED TO THE LIMIT.



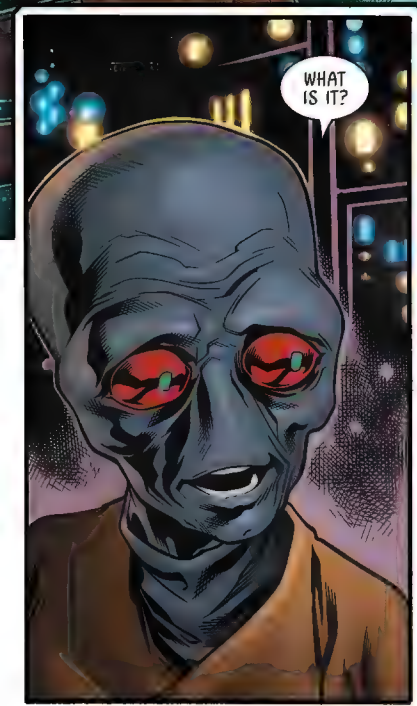
STRAP IN, KID.



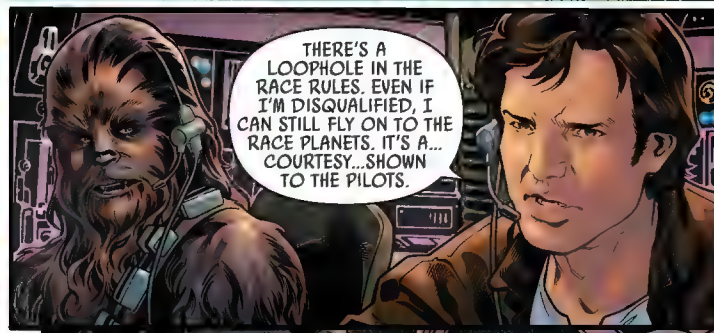
AND KEEP YOUR TRAP SHUT. THIS IS ABOUT TO GET ROUGH.



THEN WHY ARE YOU SO EXCITED?



WHAT IS IT?



THERE'S A LOOPHOLE IN THE RACE RULES. EVEN IF I'M DISQUALIFIED, I CAN STILL FLY ON TO THE RACE PLANETS. IT'S A... COURTESY... SHOWN TO THE PILOTS.



THAT'S FANTASTIC! WE CAN AVOID THIS DEATH TRAP AND STILL PICK UP THE OTHERS.

GGARRCH!



I KNOW, CHEWIE, WE'RE NOT HERE TO RACE.

PILOTS! COUNTDOWN HAS COMMENCED! PREPARE TO FLY!

TEN... NINE... EIGHT...



SEVEN... SIX... FIVE... FOUR...

CHEWIE, PRIME THE ACCELERATORS. HURRY.

ARRGGH!

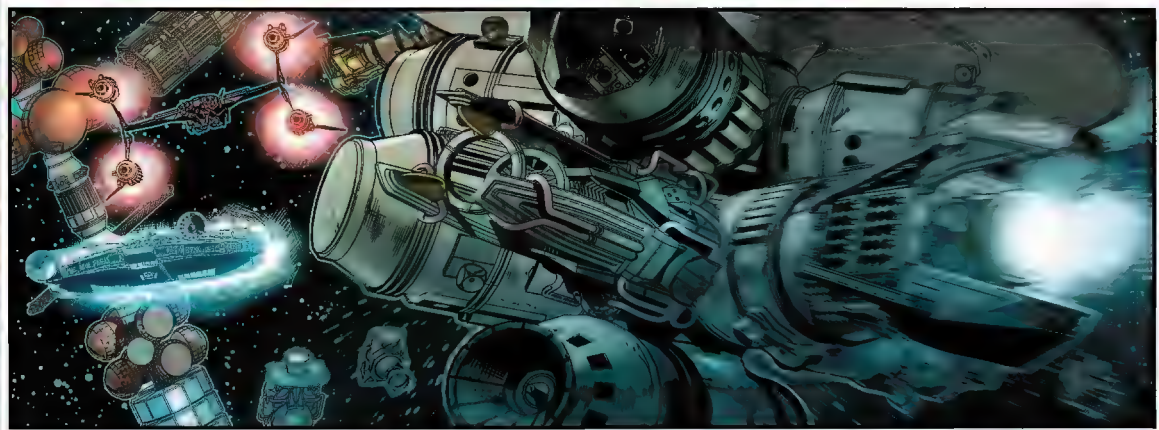
DON'T ARGUE, FURBALL. I KNOW WHAT I'M DOING.

WAIT, WHY DO WE NEED THE ACCELERATORS? WE'RE GOING TO BE DISQUALIFIED!



THREE... TWO... ONE!

NOT IF I CAN HELP IT.





Hour One.

Hour Two.

Hour Three.

Hour Four.

Hour Five.

Hour Six.

Hour Seven.

Hour Eight.

Hour Nine.

Hour Ten.

THAT
CRAZY
FOOL.

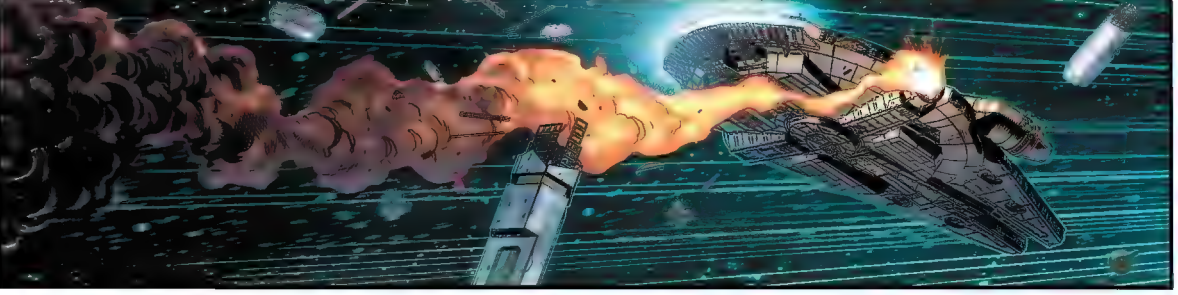
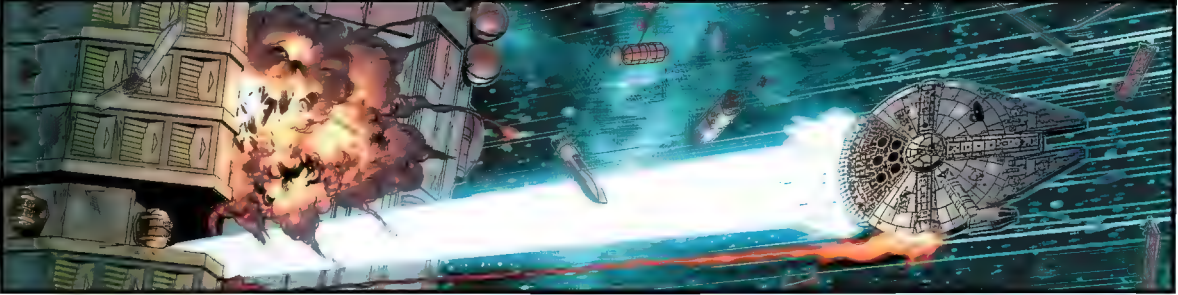
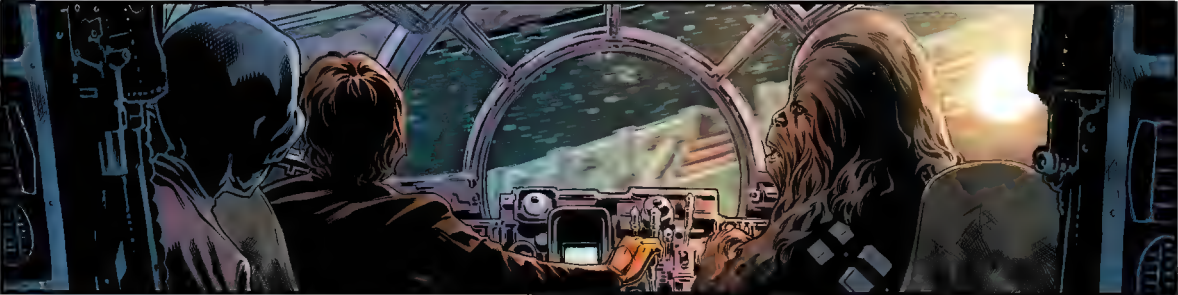
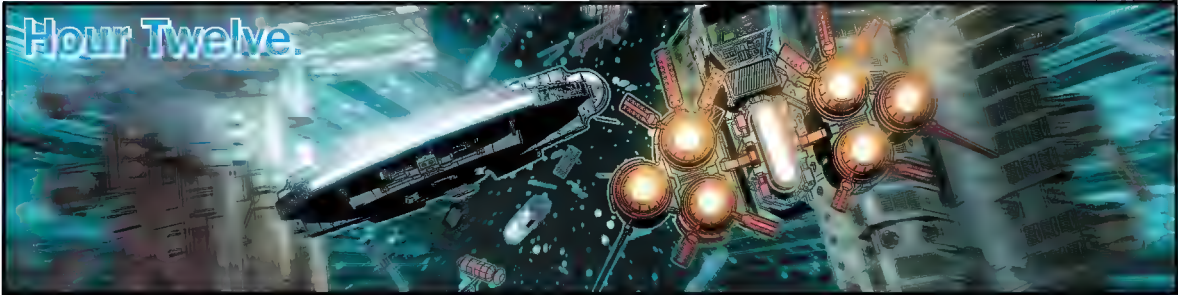
HOW
LONG CAN
HE KEEP THIS
UP?

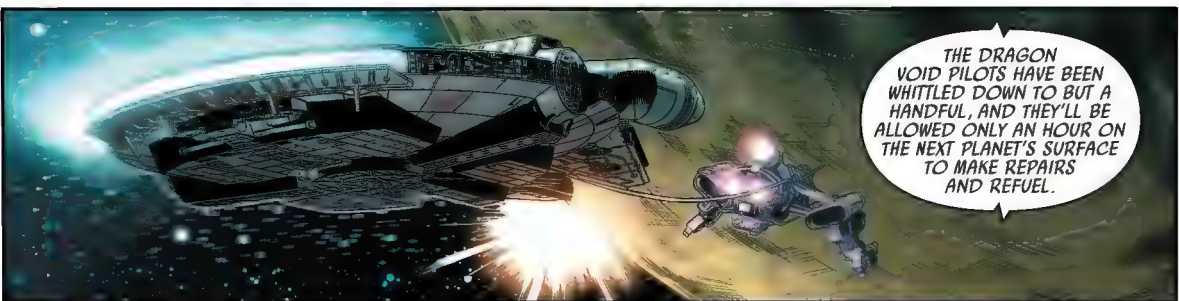
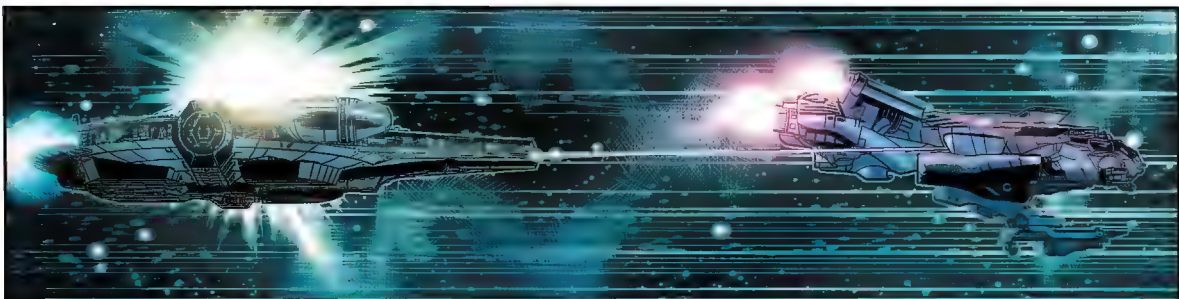
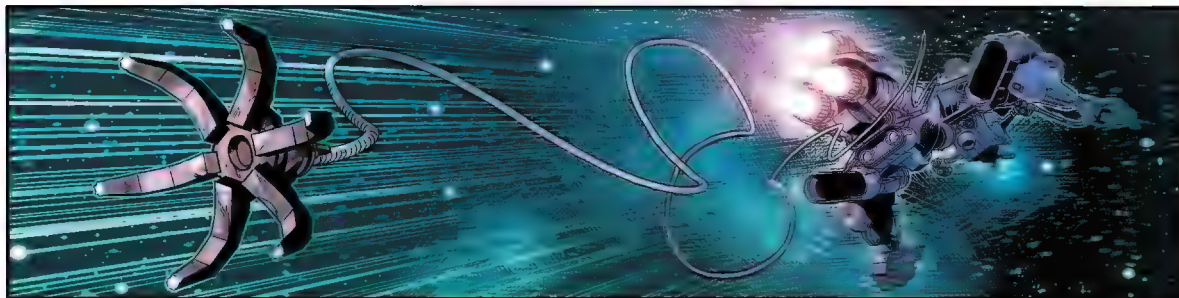
LONG
ENOUGH TO
SHOOT YOU IF
YOU KEEP
TALKING.

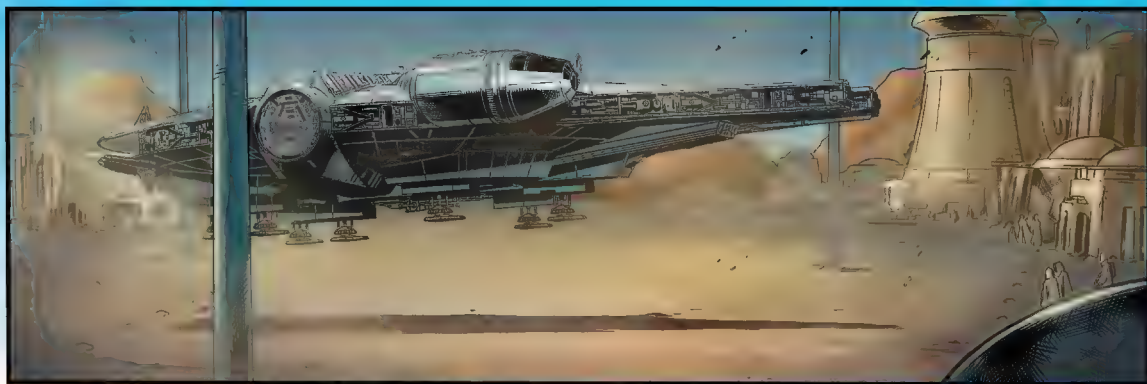
WITH ONLY
FIVE HOURS LEFT
TO GO, PILOT NADEM
NAZ HAS GIVEN UP AND
DISQUALIFIED HIMSELF
FROM THE RACE!

ALMOST
THERE.

ALMOST
THERE.







KEEP THE ENGINE HOT, CHEWIE. AND CHECK THE REAR DEFLECTOR WHERE WE HIT THAT DEBRIS. I DON'T WANT PROBLEMS LATER.

ARRRRCH!

YOU WORRY TOO MUCH. I'LL BE BACK IN TWO CLICKS.

WELL, THIS IS UNUSUAL. PILOT SOLO IS LEAVING THE AIRFIELD.



IT'S NOT AGAINST THE RULES, BUT GIVEN THE SHORT TIME ON THE PLANET, MOST PILOTS WOULD STAY CLOSE TO THEIR SHIPS. ESPECIALLY AFTER THE GRUELING PACE OF THE PREVIOUS CHALLENGE.

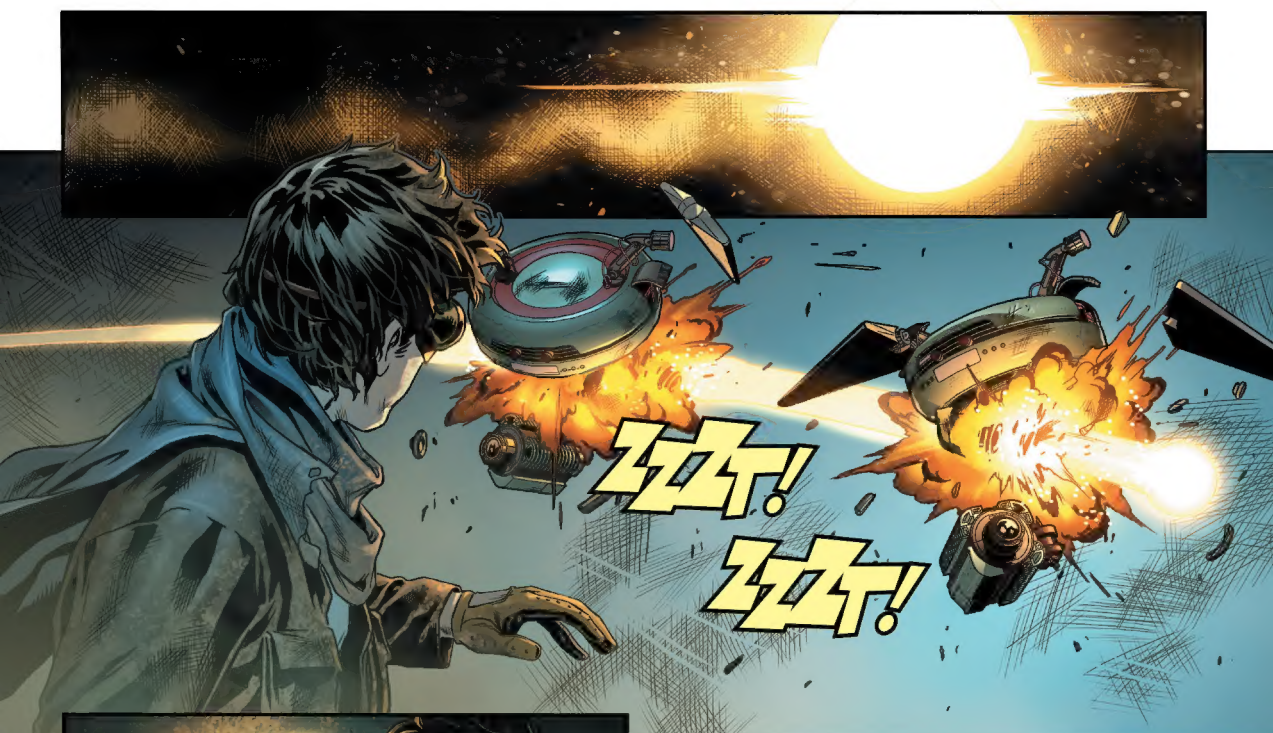
WHAT COULD BE MORE IMPORTANT THAN PREPARING FOR THE NEXT, AND MOST DANGEROUS, PHASE OF THE DRAGON VOID RUN?

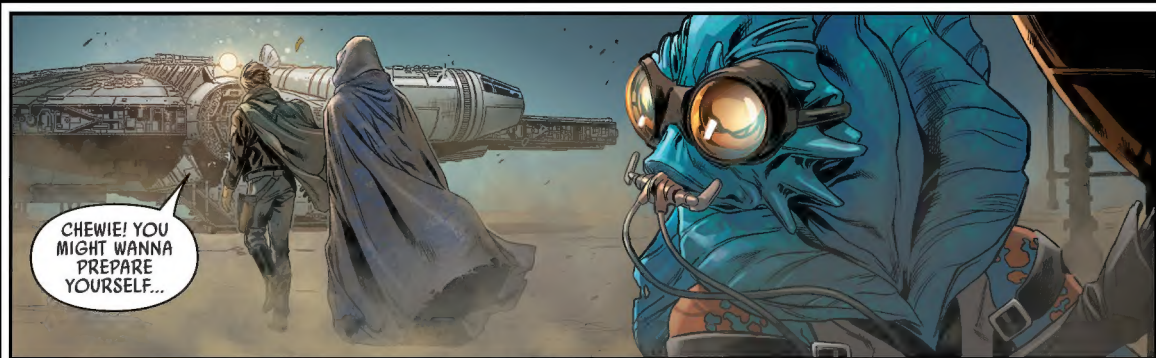


OH, NO.



I'VE GOT TO GET RID OF THESE CAMERAS.







BUT I GUESS
IT'S AS GOOD
A TIME AS ANY TO
SETTLE AN
OLD DEBT...
...CHEWBACCA.

TO BE CONTINUED...

HAN SOLO

NEXT ISSUE:



A long time ago in a galaxy far, far away
is a lot easier to get to than you think –
and we want to hear from you!
Write us at StarWars@Marvel.com if
you want to make it onto a future letters
page. Don't forget to mark the letter
"OK TO PRINT."